



## State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

### Cyber Security Awareness Month

**WHEREAS**, we recognize the vital role that technology has in our daily lives and in the future of our nation, whereby today many citizens, schools, libraries, businesses and other organizations use the internet for a variety of tasks, including keeping in contact with family and friends, managing personal finances, performing research, enhancing education and conducting business; and

**WHEREAS**, critical sectors are increasingly reliant on information systems to support financial services, energy, education, telecommunications, transportation, utilities, health care, and emergency response systems; and

**WHEREAS**, the use of the internet at the primary and secondary school levels in this state enhances the education of youth by providing them access to online educational and research materials; and at institutions of higher education, the use of information technology is integral to teaching and learning, research, and outreach and service; and

**WHEREAS**, internet users and our information infrastructure face an increasing threat of malicious cyber attack, loss of privacy from spyware and adware, and significant financial and personal privacy losses due to identity theft and fraud; and

**WHEREAS**, the Stop.Think.Connect. campaign ([www.stopthinkconnect.org](http://www.stopthinkconnect.org)) is a national effort coordinated by a coalition of private companies, nonprofits and government organizations to help all digital citizens stay safer and more secure online; and


**WHEREAS**, the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center provides a collaborative mechanism to help state, local, territorial and tribal governments enhance cyber security; and

**WHEREAS**, maintaining the security of cyberspace is a shared responsibility in which each of us has a critical role, and awareness of computer security essentials will improve the security of Rhode Island information infrastructure and economy; and


**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ([www.dhs.gov/cyber](http://www.dhs.gov/cyber)), the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center ([www.msisc.org](http://www.msisc.org)), the National Association of State Chief Information Officers ([www.nascio.org](http://www.nascio.org)) and the National Cyber Security Alliance ([www.staysafeonline.org](http://www.staysafeonline.org)) have declared October as National Cyber Security Awareness Month and encourage all citizens to visit these sites, along with Stop.Think.Connect, to learn about cyber security and put that knowledge into practice in their homes, schools, workplaces and businesses; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee**, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim October 2012 as Cyber Security Awareness Month in the State of Rhode Island and encourage all state residents to recognize the importance of this month.



  
A. Ralph Mollis  
Secretary of State

Given under my hand and the great  
seal of the State of Rhode Island  
and Providence Plantations,  
this 11<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2012

  
Lincoln D. Chafee  
Governor